

In the Name of GOD



Ardabil University of
Medical Sciences

School of Medicine

A Thesis Submitted to the School of Medicine in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

Title:

Evaluation of the cytotoxic effects and apoptosis induction of
Curcumin and it's 2,6-Bis Benzyldine cyclohexanone
derivatives on AGS cancer cell line

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Dedication

Dedicated to:

Humanity,

Something that needs to be taken care of more than anything we think.

Acknowledgments

It was such a long journey from the time I started to write my dissertation until the moment I finished defending it. Now in retrospect, I can see what an incredible opportunity I was provided with and how proud I am to be the one who presents this dissertation. Definitely, my efforts and work would not come into a result if there was not the assistance of certain people, so it behooves me to show my deepest appreciation to them.

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Abstract

Background & Objective: Curcumin and its chalcone derivatives inhibit the growth of human cancer cells. It is reported that replacement of two OH groups in curcumin with less polar groups like methoxy increases its anti-proliferative activity. In this study, we explored efficacy of benzyldine cyclohexanone derivatives with non-polar groups, to see if they possess increased anti-cancer activity.

Materials and Methods: Novel 2,6-bis benzyldine cyclohexanone analogues of curcumin were synthesized, and their inhibitory effects on gastric adenocarcinoma (AGS) and esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (KYSE30) cancer cells were studied using an MTT assay. Cell apoptosis was detected by EB/AO staining, and cell cycle was analyzed by flow cytometry. Real-time PCR was performed for gene expression analysis.

Results: All synthesized analogues were cytotoxic toward gastric and esophageal cancer cells and showed lower IC₅₀ values than curcumin. Treatment of 2,6-Bis-(3-methoxy-4-propoxy-benzylidene)-cyclohexanone (BM2) on cells was 17 times more toxic than curcumin after 48 h incubation. All novel compounds were more effective than curcumin in apoptosis induction and cell cycle arrest at G1 phase.

Conclusion: These results suggest that less polar analogues of curcumin have potent cytotoxicity in vitro. However, they need to be investigated further, especially with animal tumor models to confirm their chemotherapeutic activity in vivo.

Keywords: Cytotoxicity, Apoptosis, Cell cycle, Curcumin, Benzyldine cyclohexanone, AGS cells, KYSE30 cells

Figures and Tables

Figure 1-1 Incidence of stomach cancer in males. (Data adopted from Parkin et al, International variation Oncogene. 2004 Aug 23;23(38):6329-40)**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 1-2 Pathways to apoptosis in hematopoietic cells. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 1-3 The cell cycle phases. (Adopted from the University of Leicester website: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/projects/vgec/schoolscolleges/topics/cellcycle-mitosis-meiosis>).....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 1-4 Molecular structure of curcumin and its metabolites. (Adopted from: P Anand, et al, Bioavailability of curcumin: problems and promises. Mol. Pharmaceutics, 2007, 4 (6), pp 807–818.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 2-1 Schematic illustration of multistep-carcinogenesis (from Surh et al. with modifications.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 2-2 Curcumin could potentially prevent or suppress variety of cancers. (P. Anand et al. / Cancer Letters 267 (2008) 133–164) ... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 2-3 Signal transduction pathways affected by curcumin treatment leading to programmed cell death. (Duvoix et al. / Cancer Letters 223 (2005) 181–190)**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 3-1 Synthesized primary aromatic aldehydes**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 3-2 Synthesized 2,6-bis benzylidene cyclohexanones (4a – 4e also named BM1- BM5).....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-1 Inhibitory effect of synthesized compounds on AGS cells assessed with MTT assay at 24 h time point.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-2 Inhibitory effect of synthesized compounds on AGS cells assessed with MTT assay after 48 h time point.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-3 Inhibitory effect of synthesized analogues on AGS cells determined by MTT assay after 72 h time point.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-4 Inhibitory effect of synthesized compounds on KYSE30 cells assessed with MTT assay at 24 h time point.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-5 Inhibitory effect of synthesized compounds on KYSE30 cells assessed with MTT assay at 48 h time point.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-6 Inhibitory effect of synthesized compounds on KYSE30 cells assessed with MTT assay at 72 h time point.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-7 EB/AO staining for detecting apoptotic cells. A. Control un-treated AGS cells. B. representative micrograph of apoptotic cells treated with BM2 that are characterized with fragmented and condensed nuclei of cells. C. quantification of the cells.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-8 2,6-Bis Benzyldine cyclohexanone derivatives induced apoptosis in the KYSE-30 cells. Quantification of the KYSE-30 cells with normal, necrotic and apoptotic representation that acquired using EB/AO staining.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-9 Relative expression levels of Bax, cyclin D1, VEGFA, Bcl-2, Caspase 3, c-myc, survivin and RPL38 mRNA in AGS cells. All Ct values were normalized with the homo sapiens ribosomal protein L38 (RPL38) as a housekeeping gene.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-10 2,6-Bis Benzyldine cyclohexanone derivatives dys-regulated expression levels of Bax, cyclin D1, VEGFA, Bcl-2, Caspase 3, c-myc and

survivin in the KYSE-30 cells. All Ct values were normalized with the homo sapiens ribosomal protein L38 (RPL38).**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-11 Flow cytometric analysis of the cell cycle. Curcumin analogues altered distribution of the AGS cells in cell cycle phases, which indicates that cell cycle arrested at G1 phase.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Figure 4-12 2,6-Bis Benzyldine cyclohexanone derivatives arrested cell cycle at G1 phase in the KYSE-30 cells.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Tables

Table 3-1 Chemical characterization of the synthesized 2,6-bis benzyldene cyclohexanones including formula, structure, molecular weight, melting point, color and yield

Table 3-2 Primers used in quantitative PCR and the amplicon sizes (bp: base pair).....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Table 4-1 IC₅₀ values of synthesized 2,6-Bis Benzyldine cyclohexanone analogues in AGS cells that analyzed by MTT assay after 24h, 48h, and 72h. Values are in µg/mL.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Table 4-2 IC₅₀ values of synthesized 2,6-Bis Benzyldine cyclohexanone derivatives on KYSE-30 cells that analyzed by MTT assay after 24h, 48h, and 72h time points. Values are in µg/ml.**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Text
°C	Centigrade
µg	Micro-gram
µl	Micro-liter
AO	Acridine Orange
BAX	bcl-2-like protein 4
Bcl-2	B-cell lymphoma 2
Caspase-3 (CASP3)	cysteine- asp artic acid prote ase (caspase)
Cm	Centimeter
c-myc	Cellular homolog of the retroviral v-myconcogene
Cyclin D1	Regulator of G1 phase of the cell cycle
DAPI	4',6'-Diamidino-2-Phenylindole
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
EB	Ethidium Bromide
FBS	Fetal Bovine Serum
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
G	Gram

G1	Gap 1 Phase
G2	Gap 2 Phase
GC	Gastric Cancer
GI	Gastrointestinal
H	Hour(s)
IC50	The Half Maximal Inhibitory Concentration
IV	Intravenous
kPa	Kilopascal
Kg	Kilogram
M	Mitosis
Mg	Milligram
Min	Minute
ml	Milliliter
mol wt	Molecular Weight
MTT	MTT (3-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5 Diphenyltetrazolium Bromide)
NAD(P)H	Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide (Phosphate)
NIH	National Institute of Health
Nm	Nanometer
OD	Optical Density
PBS	Phosphate Buffered Saline

Pg	Pico-gram
Ppm	Parts Per Million
Rcf	Relative Centrifugal Force
Rpm	Round Per Minute
S	Synthesis Phase
SD	Standard Deviation
SEM	Standard Error of the Mean
Survivin	Baculoviral inhibitor of apoptosis repeat-containing 5 or BIRC5
UV	Ultraviolet
VEGFA	Vascular endothelial growth factor A
w/v	Weight/Volume

Table of Contents

Dedication	3
Acknowledgments	4
Abstract	5
Figures and Tables	6
Abbreviations	9
Chapter 1	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1. Introduction	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.1. Gastric cancer	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.1.1. Pathology of gastric cancer	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.1.2. Demographics of gastric cancer	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.1.3. Survival.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.1.4. Prevention of gastric cancer	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2. Apoptosis	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2.1. Molecular Control of Apoptosis.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2.2. Death Receptor-Induced Apoptosis ..	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2.3. The Bcl-2-Regulated Cell Death Signaling Pathway.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.3. Cell Cycle	Error! Bookmark not defined.

1.3.1. Cell cycle and cancer.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.4. Curcumin	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.4.1. Chemical properties of curcumin	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 2	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2. Literature Review.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.1. Chemopreventive effects of curcumin.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.2. Anti-carcinogenic activities of curcumin	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.3. Curcumin induces apoptotic mechanisms	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.4. Anti-inflammatory effects of curcumin...	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.5. Study design.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.6. Objectives and Hypotheses.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.6.1. Special objectives	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 3	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3. Methods.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1. Synthesis of 2,6-bis benzyldine cyclohexanone derivatives	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2. Cell Culture and Treatment	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3. MTT Assay	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.4. Apoptotic Cell detection by EB/AO Staining	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.5. Flow Cytometric analysis of the Cell Cycle.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.6. mRNA expression analysis by qPCR.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

3.7. Statistical Analysis	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 4	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4. Results	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 5	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5. Discussion	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Conclusion	Error! Bookmark not defined.
References	Error! Bookmark not defined.